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Arthur McKinstry to Jennie

Arthur McKinstry

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We have lots of meat but it is not cooked fit
to eat. It is wholesome but I never
liked boiled meat and almost all
ours is cooked that way. So Charley
is ensign is he, well good for him
That rank is not recognised in the
U.S. service but there is a non com-
missioned officer called Color Sergeant
instead, and there is but one to a reg-
iment. As a N.Y. militia officer however
I think Charley can draw his pay
and come out all right. Well he is the
only tolerable one in the crew and wish
him good luck. Pete I presume howls
fervently for his dear Journal of Commerce.
There are 150,000 men in this little
cluster and as many more in other
parts fighting to repair the mischief
such traitors have made. I think it
would do good to make an example
of one or two leading soft and tar

and them at least. Are there any meaner
class on earth than "Northern men with
Southern principles." I am very brown
and hairy so I have shaved but
once since I left Dunkirk because
I need the beard to keep the sun
from skinning me alive.

I have been unwell for a few
days but I think I can do duty again
to morrow. I stand the heat like
a Salamander and I think I can
fight upon as hot a day as our
Seceshes. While we were scouting
we had for three days but on the
a day and that for a trip of not
less than 15 miles. We didn't stop
though - Oh no we sort of found
what was needed and went on our
way with well filled bellies and
rejoicing hearts. As a general rule
our officers and men presented a
marked contrast to the Irish

Company from the 2nd, and the gonaves,
by their order, decency, and discipline
I think you are lucky in getting rid of
Frank Remington for the war but
Jerome seems to stick to you yet.
Don't you wish it was necessary to
draft that you might get rid of him too.
So Millie wants you to tell me
that she loves Artie. Well Artie has
heard it and is glad of such news.
I shall be glad to see the little thing
again when the war is over. Millie is a
kind good girl and a pretty one too if
she is not so admirably glib as John Junior.
McClellan makes his plans so
secretly that we cannot ourselves tell
anything where we are going when under
marching orders. When we stop we
know what the order must have been.
If the enemies know what we
are about they are better posted
than our colonel. Finally McClellan

in the East and Fremont in the
West as sure to conquer.
The enemy talk of retreating, but if
they do it they are ruined at once
for we have the best of the land and
men would be after them very soon
with abundance of heavy artillery and
cavalry. I don't try to send you news
except so far as concerns myself and
any new news goes by telegraph to
Fort Smith in less than a hour
can travel five or six miles from
the city and bring it here. The reports
of the Chicago Tribune are that
Paris as soon as it goes to the higher
office. I see that Major H. H. H.
has been promoted to brigadier general
in Fremont's division. Well, I think I
have done you a long letter so
good bye.

Arthur

From Arthur
in Camp